

REMARKS

This paper is in supplement to the Examiner's call on May 20, 2004, in which the Examiner noted antecedent basis issues in Claims 2, 7, 13, 16, 18, 20, and 27. No statutory time was set to respond to the Examiner's comments. Accordingly, this response is timely.

Claims in the Application.

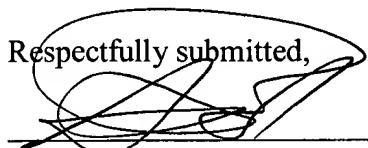
Claims 1-34 are pending in this Application. Claims 15-20, 22, 25-31, 33, and 34 have been allowed. Claims 1, 2, 6, 8-11, 14, 21, 23, 24, and 32 were rejected and Claims 3-5, 7, 12, and 13 have been objected to in a January 30, 2004 Office Action. Claims 1, 2, 8-10, 15, 21, 23, 24, 29, and 32 were been amended in an April 30, 2004 Amendment and Response to this Office Action. Claim 2 has been amended in this Second Supplemental Amendment.

CONCLUSION

For the stated reasons and for the reasons previously stated, reconsideration is respectfully requested. Though Applicant does not believe that any fee is necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge or credit the Deposit Account No. 12-1322 of Locke Liddell & Sapp LLP under Order No. 017341-00050. The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at (713) 226-1218 should he deem it necessary to advance the prosecution of this application.

Date: July 12, 2004

Respectfully submitted,


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